



CHILD HEALTH NOTES

1st Quarter
2013

Promoting early identification and partnerships between families, primary health care providers & the community.

Distributed by: CLARK COUNTY PUBLIC HEALTH – Children with Special Health Care Needs

Contributors: Washington State Department of Health and UW – Center on Human Development & Disability

Developmental Surveillance and Screening In Primary Care



IF UNSURE,

REFER!

Developmental surveillance:

- is a longitudinal, cumulative process to identify children at risk for developmental delays
- notes risk factors, including medical history and home risk factors, as well as protective factors
- provides the context for interpretation of screening results

Developmental screening:

- uses standardized tests to refine the identification of children who may need intervention
- does not result in a diagnosis or treatment plan but rather identifies areas in which a child's development differs from same-age norms
- AAP guidelines recommend routine screening at **9, 18, (24) and 30 months or whenever concerns are identified** (Identifying Infants and Young Children With Developmental Disorders in the Medical Home, *Pediatrics* 2006; 118: 405-420)

There are other screening protocols available. For example, the North Carolina ABCD Project recommends screening at 4, 6, 12, 24, 36, 48 months (<http://www.nashp.org>)

WHY IS SCREENING IMPORTANT?

- **Early intervention is effective.** Children who participate in early intervention programs prior to kindergarten are more likely to achieve goals of independence, functional productivity, community integration, and improved school performance. Families are more likely to cope effectively.
- Without the use of standardized tools, **only 30% of children with developmental disabilities are identified before school entrance.** However, when standardized tools are used, 70-80% of children with developmental disabilities are identified. (Palfrey et al. *J Pediatr.* 1987;111:651-655; Squires et al. *JDBP.* 1996; 17(6):420-427.)
- Studies have shown that incorporating a screening test before a well-child care visit **does not increase the length of the visit.** (Schonwald et al. *Clinical Pediatr* 2009; 48:648-655; Sices et al. 2009; *Pediatrics*; 122: 1095)
- Incorporating regular screening for all children in your practice facilitates discussions with parents when concerns arise. ***It is easier to broach the subject of new developmental concerns in the context of an ongoing discussion with parents.***
- Even if children referred for evaluation do not qualify for early intervention/special education or therapy assistance, there are resources - from parent websites and handouts, to Head Start programs and more - that can assist parents and their children with borderline range skills.

WHAT SCREENING TESTS ARE AVAILABLE?

- **Parent report questionnaires** can be given to parent to complete before a visit, so that administration time does not add to visit length. Ages and Stages or PEDS can be mailed home or given in the waiting room. They can also be administered in an interview, either in-person or by phone. The results can then be discussed at the visit.
- A good screening test should have good sensitivity (few false negatives) and good specificity (few false positives.) **Values for both sensitivity and specificity should be at least 70 – 80 %.** There are several parent report tools available that are easy to incorporate into practice and that meet these criteria, including the ASQ-3 and the PEDS.

THREE EXAMPLES ARE LISTED BELOW:

- **Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3)** -- Also available online for parents to complete.
<http://www.brookespublishing.com/store/books/squires-70021/index.htm>
 AGES: 1 month through 5 ½ years
 ITEMS: 30 items in 5 domains for each questionnaire
 TIME: Administered at home, waiting room or by phone – takes parents 10-15 minutes
 Scoring takes 1 - 3 minutes
- **PEDS (Parent Evaluation of Developmental Status)**
<http://www.pedstest.com> -- (electronic version: www.forepath.org – for a charge)
 AGES: Birth to 8 years
 ITEMS: 10 item questionnaire
 TIME: takes parents 2 minutes, can be administered as interview at home or by phone
 Scoring takes 5 minutes
- **Child Development Inventories (CDI)** - www.childdeverev.com
 Infant Development Inventory – 0-21 months
 Child Development Review – Parent Questionnaire – 18-60 months
 ITEMS: 6 open-ended questions; 25-item problems checklist, developmental milestones in five areas
 TIME: 5-20 minutes for parent to complete
 SCORING: 5 minutes

For a more detailed discussion, visit the Washington State Medical Home website: www.medicalhome.org/health/dev_mon.cfm

For autism screening guidelines, see: Johnson et al. *Pediatrics* 2007; 120 (5): 1183-1215

Nicole Castonguay, MD, (ncastonguay@wcaap.org 360-397-3537), WA Chapter of WCAAP, and Vancouver Clinic Pediatrician, is available to present to pediatric and family practice clinics on medical homes including developmental screening in routine well child care, following the AAP guidelines.

COUNTY RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPMENTAL SCREENING AND ASSESSMENT

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| ➤ For children under age three: | Contact: Early Support for Infant and Toddlers (ESIT) | 360-567-2741 |
| ➤ For children age three and older: | Contact: | |
| | ESD112 | 360-750-7500 x342 |
| | Vancouver School District..... | 360-313-4858 |
| | Evergreen School District | 360-604-3925 |
| | Or school district where child resides, if different from above. | |

SPECIAL NEEDS INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:

Local:	Children with Special Health Care Needs Program, Clark County Public Health EOCF: Early Head Start (0 to 3 year olds); Head Start: 4 – 5 y/o's	360-397-8472 referrals 360-397-8000 ex 7400 Connie Callahan, PHN 360- 567-2720
Regional:	WithinReach Family Health Hotline	1-800-322-2588, 1-800-833-6388 TTD www.withinreachwa.org
	Seattle Children's Hospital: Health Professional Hotline Parent Resource Line	(800) 293-2462 (866) 987-2500
	Sacred Heart Children's Hospital Health Professional Consultation & Referral Line	(877) 474-7640
	Early Support for Infant and Toddlers (ESIT)	http://del.wa.gov/development/esit/Default.aspx
	Parent to Parent Support Programs of Washington	(800) 821-5927 http://www.arcwa.org/getsupport/parent_to_parent_p2p_programs
National/ Internet:	American Academy of Pediatrics AAP Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics American Academy of Family Physicians CDC Act Early	www.aap.org www.dbpeds.org www.aafp.org www.cdc.gov/ncbddd/actearly/index.html

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